

GREAT INCREASE IS RECORD OF THE YEAR

PROSPEROUS TWELVE MONTHS FOR THE SHEEPERS.

Advance In Prices of Hundreds Per Cent, But Lateness of Season Causes Big Decrease In Lambs—Operations Throughout the Western Country Double That of Previous Times.

The great compensating feature in the wool-growing industry during the past year, making up in a measure for the heavy losses of 1917, was the material increase in the commercial value of wool and lambs. The year opened with wool selling around thirty cents a pound, the best clip, the top of the market being realized in July owing to the lateness of the season during the lambing period was short and the increase was far below normal, averaging 12 to 20 per cent, compared with 60 per cent as a minimum under even and normal weather conditions. Due to the heavy increase in the cost of supplies, higher wages due to scarcity of labor and other contingencies, the cost of raising sheep in Utah was almost double during 1917 that it was in 1916. During the very cold period of last winter many of the flockmasters paid as high as fifty dollars a ton for hay.

The outlook for the coming spring is particularly bright and sheepmen expect an extra large crop of lambs and a heavy wool clip except in the extreme southern part of the state, where the fall months were unusually dry and the ranges are poor. This opinion is expressed by C. B. Stewart, secretary of the Utah State Woolgrowers association and chairman of the live stock commission, that the detrimental effect of the east as lamb campaign, inaugurated by the federal food administrator, will be felt all through the United States before many months and will be reflected by an enormous decrease in stocks. Instead of conserving, Stewart declares, propaganda will have the opposite effect, in reducing the number of sheep on the ranges.

REDUCE PUBLIC RANGE.

Flockmasters of Utah also are vitally interested in the working of the new homestead and forty acre homestead which, it is declared, will materially reduce the extent of the public range. It is urged that unless the sheep industry is to be driven out of state completely, the federal government must take an interest in the preservation of summer and winter ranges and provide for the maintenance of open trails from the summer winter ranges, to corrals and to market points. There are in Utah approximately 1,300,000 sheep, a decrease of about 25 per cent from the previous year, due largely to the backward spring and the consequent loss of lambs, together with the predation by predators and antelope, statistics showing that the latter has amounted to approximately two hundred thousand sheep annually.

In an effort to eradicate predators, the state and federal authorities have been co-operating for years. With an annual appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars the state live stock commission is now maintaining a force of about sixty trappers in the field.

SCOURING PLANT COMING.

One of the bright spots on the horizon for the flockmaster is believed to be an early materialization of the proposition of building and operating a wool scouring plant in Salt Lake City, which has been the dream of some of the sheepmen for many years. It is believed that such a plant will be in operation in time to treat the spring clip of wool. Operated along proper lines, it is estimated that a wool scouring plant will enable the grower, through elimination of commissions paid to the shippers, freight and other charges, to realize five to fifteen cents more a pound for their wool than is now possible by shipping the wool to Eastern points in the grease. J. L. Hansen and Eastern capitalists, has spent considerable time in Utah during the past year presenting the proposition to the sheepmen. Boston, Mass., capitalists finally have consented to put up and run the plant and the woolgrowers of the state have given it support by guaranteeing sufficient wool to keep it in operation during the wool season.

One of the greatest hindrances to the establishment of a wool scouring plant in the West, which existed for years, but which finally has been eliminated, has been that of freight rates. The railroads, it is understood, are now given the woolgrowers a though rate on wool in the grease to the clipping point to Salt Lake City and team Salt Lake City to the Eastern wool markets on secured wagons.

SAVES MUCH FREIGHT.

This produces annually between 16,000 and 16,000,000 pounds of wool in the grease. On this a shrinkage of 50 to 75 per cent must be taken into account. The wool remains amount of dirt in the wool which is taken from the sheep's backs. Growers have been paying an average of a cent a pound freight to Eastern commission houses. A detailed receipt of sheep and lamb bills at the seven principal Western cities, Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, St. Joseph, Sioux City, Des Moines, Iowa, and all of Price, Ogallala, Nebraska, etc., show an average cost per head in the above described, before the district court, at Price, Utah, on the 2d day of February, 1918, the defendant names and witnesses William O'Gorman, Carlisle, Sioux City, Paul, told the story of damage done and a lamb crop that was thus removing the last obstacle.

SAVES MUCH FREIGHT.

September developed an enormous volume of feeder and breeder trade,

SCENE CLOSE BEHIND THE FIRING LINE



This scene just behind the firing line in France shows wounded British soldiers coming in after receiving first aid. In the background is seen an observation balloon ascending.

GERMAN ROUNDUP BEGINS NEXT MONTH

NUMBER IN CARBON COUNTY IS UNDER ONE HUNDRED.

Subjects of Austria-Hungary Not to Be Molested At This Time By Department of Justice—Photographs and Fingerprints to Be Filed As a Means of Future Identification.

The week of February 4th has been set aside by the department of justice for registration of the half million unregistered United States by police and postmasters. In pursuance of President Wilson's alien enemy proclamation directing this action as a means of minimizing the danger from enemy sympathizers. Registration will involve the gathering of detailed information concerning the business, relatives and habits of every German, together with his photograph and fingerprints. After registering he must carry a certificate card and may not change his place of residence without approval of the police or postmaster. Violations of the regulations will be punishable by imprisonment for the war period.

These orders do not apply to German women nor to any persons under 14 years of age, because these are not classed as alien enemies by law. Subjects of Austria-Hungary are not required to register. In announcing the regulations the department of justice took care to avoid creating the impression that the government looks on each German with suspicion. "Registrants are not to be treated as persons of evil disposition," say instructions to registrars, "and the registration officers are urged to deal with them in a courteous and friendly manner."

DISTRICTS ARE PROVIDED.

Certificate cards will be issued only after a complete verification is made. In cities of five thousand or more population recorded by the 1910 census, the chief of police and his assistants will administer the registration. In smaller communities and rural districts registration will be conducted by the postmaster, and the postmaster of the largest office in the local judicial district (in most states the equivalent of a county) will be the chief registration officer to gather the reports from the others and forward them to the United States marshal and the department of justice. In most cities the work will be done by registrars.

Every German is required to go to the registrar and make out triplicate affidavit information blanks, and to furnish four photographs of himself—one for each affidavit and one for his registration card. The photograph must bear his signature written across the front and must not be larger than three inches square. It must be on thin paper and have a light background. The affidavit provides for recording name, address, place of birth, occupation and residence since January 1, 1918, date of arrival in the United States, whether married, names and ages of children, whether the registrant has had any male relative in arms against the United States, whether registered for the draft, military training, naturalization conditions and similar information. Full description of the man and the prints of each finger must be taken by the registrar. The registrant must swear to the affidavits before the registering officer.

One of the triplicate records is to be kept by the registration agent, one sent to the United States marshal and one to the department of justice at Washington, D. C. Germans not at their place of business during the week of February 4th may be registered in the district which they happen to be.

The estimate has been made that approximately 90 per cent of the copper output of the United States goes into government consumption through the manufacture of war munitions. This includes production from the big mines of South America, Canada and Mexico, which comes into the United States to be refined. Smelting and refining operations now amount to approximately 300,000,000 pounds every month.

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